

BEGINNING HIP HOP

Course Syllabus

Periods: 1st & 3rd Periods

Location: Café

Course Instructors: Ms. Carlota & Ms. Vanessa

Instructor Emails: csilva@paparts.org | vmathis@paparts.org

Google Classroom Code: _____

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Beginning Hip Hop introduces students to the **foundations of Hip Hop as both a culture and a dance form**. Students will explore the origins and development of Hip Hop, including where and how it began, the cultural influences that shaped it, and the pioneers who contributed to its growth from its beginnings to the present day.

Learning will extend beyond physical movement through **research, readings, short films/video clips, class discussions, projects, written assignments, and quizzes** designed to strengthen students' understanding of the foundations and history of Hip Hop.

In movement-based instruction, students will develop fundamental Hip Hop skills through warm-ups incorporating **isolations, strength and endurance training, body awareness, groove development, and foundational movement vocabulary**.

Students will explore essential movement concepts including **dynamics, textures, grooves, musicality, tempo, rhythm, body control, and spatial awareness**. Students will learn how these concepts can be applied across different styles and genres within Hip Hop movement.

The course will also introduce students to the foundations of **freestyle and battle**, encouraging individuality, creativity, confidence, collaboration, and the ability to create movement in the moment.

Throughout the course, students will learn and rehearse a performance piece for the annual **PAPA Spring Dance Concert at NHCC**. Participation in the Spring Dance Concert serves as the student's **third-quarter final assessment** and contributes to the student's final grade.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of Beginning Hip Hop, students should be able to:

- Perform the assigned Spring Dance Concert routine with appropriate technique, musicality, performance quality, and retention.
- Identify and explain foundational elements of Hip Hop culture.
- Identify influential pioneers in the development of Hip Hop.
- Describe where, when, and how Hip Hop began.
- Demonstrate basic body awareness, coordination, groove, and spatial awareness.
- Identify and demonstrate foundational Hip Hop movement vocabulary.
- Recognize and apply basic concepts of **rhythm, tempo, dynamics, texture, and musicality**.
- Demonstrate introductory freestyle skills.
- Create and connect short movement phrases independently and with peers.

- Demonstrate appropriate classroom, rehearsal, and performance etiquette.
- Develop confidence in individual movement and artistic expression.

AREAS OF STUDY

Hip Hop Culture & History

- Origins and development of Hip Hop
- Foundational elements of Hip Hop culture
- Influential pioneers and innovators
- Cultural and social context
- Evolution of Hip Hop from its beginnings to the present

Movement Foundations

- Isolations
- Grooves
- Body awareness
- Spatial awareness
- Strength and endurance
- Coordination
- Foundational movement vocabulary
- Rhythm and timing

Movement Quality & Musicality

- Dynamics
- Textures
- Tempo
- Musicality
- Accents
- Movement quality

Creative Development

- Introductory freestyle
- Movement exploration
- Creating short phrases
- Peer collaboration
- Introductory battle concepts

Performance

- Choreography retention
- Stage presence
- Performance quality

- Ensemble awareness
- Spring Dance Concert preparation

RESPECT FOR HIP HOP CULTURE

Hip Hop is more than a style of dance - it is a culture with a rich history, community, and legacy. Students are expected to approach the study of Hip Hop with **respect, curiosity, and an understanding of its cultural foundations**.

Throughout this course, we will honor the pioneers, communities, traditions, and artistic practices that have shaped Hip Hop. Students will be encouraged to understand not only **how** movement is performed, but also **where it comes from, why it exists, and the people and communities who created and developed it**.

As students develop their own artistic voices, they are expected to demonstrate respect for the culture by learning its history, using terminology appropriately, acknowledging foundational styles and innovators, and participating in class with an open and respectful mindset.

Our goal is not simply to learn Hip Hop choreography, but to become **informed, responsible, and respectful students of Hip Hop culture and movement**.

SUPPLIES & DRESS CODE

Students should come to class prepared with:

- Hair ties and/or bobby pins
- Deodorant
- Water bottle
- T-shirt
- Loose-fitting or movement-appropriate pants
- **Sneakers - REQUIRED**
- Knee pads when requested or required for choreography

Students should wear clothing that allows them to move safely and comfortably while still allowing instructors to assess proper movement and technique.

Personal first-aid items are recommended when appropriate.

ASSESSMENT

Student achievement will be evaluated through rehearsal grades, projects, quizzes, written and practical assessments, and performances.

Rehearsal Grades - 100 Points Each

Rehearsal grades will be assigned randomly **one to five times each week**. For example, one week grades may be given Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, while another week they may be given Tuesday and Thursday.

Because rehearsal grades are intentionally given on varying days, students are expected to **dress out, arrive prepared, and participate fully every day**, rather than only on anticipated grading days.

On days when a rehearsal grade is assigned, students may earn a total of **100 points**, divided as follows:

Participation - 20 Points

Students actively participate in all aspects of class, remain engaged in class activities, and continue working when presented with a difficult technique, step, or combination. Points may be deducted for talking out of turn, disrupting class,

refusing to participate, giving up without making an appropriate effort, or otherwise failing to engage in the learning process.

Attitude - 20 Points

Students are expected to approach class with a **positive growth mindset** and demonstrate kindness, generosity, and respect toward instructors and fellow students. Points may be deducted for disrespectful behavior, inappropriate language, negative interactions with peers or instructors, failure to keep hands to oneself, or behavior that negatively affects the classroom environment.

Focus - 20 Points

Students should remain focused on the task at hand and actively engage with instruction, rehearsal, and class activities. Points may be deducted for cell phone use, eating during class, talking out of turn, disrupting instruction, or other behaviors that interfere with learning.

Arriving on Time - 20 Points

Students will have **three minutes after the late bell** to complete dressing out and be ready for class. Students who are not dressed and prepared to participate by that time will be considered tardy and may have points deducted from their rehearsal grade.

Dressing Out - 20 Points

Students must attend class in the appropriate dance attire with hair secured away from the face. Points may be deducted when students are missing required components of their dance attire or are otherwise unprepared for physical participation.

In-Class Group Projects & Quizzes - 10 Points Each

Throughout the course, students may be assigned collaborative projects in which they work with classmates to create and present short choreographic works or movement phrases.

Students will also complete written quizzes throughout the year covering **dance vocabulary, Hip Hop culture, history, course concepts, and movement terminology**. Written quizzes may include multiple-choice, matching, and short-answer questions.

Practical quizzes may also be administered to assess students' ability to physically demonstrate techniques, movement vocabulary, combinations, or other material currently being studied in class. Practical quiz content will be appropriate to the movement vocabulary and technical expectations of each Hip Hop course level.

Tests & Performances - 200 Points

Students will complete both written and practical examinations throughout the course. A practical examination will be administered **at least once per semester**.

- Musicality
- Technical execution
- Movement vocabulary
- Rhythm and timing
- Choreography retention
- Performance quality
- Stylistic understanding
- Movement dynamics
- Overall application of course material

Students will receive a rubric prior to each practical examination explaining what will be assessed and how points will be awarded.

Practical examinations may be **video recorded for educational purposes** so students can observe their movement, evaluate their performance, and participate in self-assessment and reflection.

Beginning-level students will also complete the **Dance Department Written Final Examination** at the end of the spring semester. This department-wide assessment is required of students enrolled in beginning-level dance courses.

Intermediate and Advanced students may complete written or practical final assessments appropriate to their respective course level and curriculum.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students are expected to attend class **prepared and ready to learn each day**. Success in this course is directly connected to consistent attendance and participation.

A significant portion of the course consists of in-class movement activities, demonstrations, choreography, rehearsals, discussions, group work, and practical application. Because much of this material cannot be fully recreated outside of class, students who miss class - whether the absence is excused or unexcused - may find it difficult to remain current with course material.

Students are responsible for communicating with their instructors and making every reasonable effort to remain current following an absence.

MEDICAL EXCUSES

If a student is unable to physically participate because of an injury or illness, documentation or a note must be presented to the instructor.

When a medical excuse prevents physical participation, the student will be provided an appropriate **alternate assignment or modified learning activity**, and points will not be deducted solely because the student is medically unable to participate.

Students should continue attending class when medically appropriate so they can remain engaged with course content, choreography, observations, and instruction.

CELL PHONE & PERSONAL DEVICE POLICY

In accordance with **Senate Bill 11 (2025)** and guidance from the New Mexico Public Education Department, student cell phones must remain **out of sight during class**, either stored in backpacks or placed in designated classroom pouches.

Students may not use personal cell phones during class unless specifically authorized by an instructor for an educational purpose.

If a parent or guardian needs to contact a student during school hours, please contact the PAPA front office at **505-830-3128** or email **info@paparts.org**.

Students may contact their families through the front office or during approved lunch/passing periods.

School-issued Chromebooks or approved personal computers will be used for learning activities requiring technology. Students are responsible for ensuring their devices are **charged nightly and ready for academic use**.

DANCE DEPARTMENT RULES

- **Be Prompt**
- **Be Polite**
- **Be Prepared**

- **Be Productive**
- **Be Positive**

Food, beverages other than water, and gum are **not permitted in the dance studio**.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Learning a new skill can sometimes feel intimidating. With time, consistency, and practice, however, students can develop skills that may initially feel unfamiliar or difficult. Dance is no different.

While learning new movement, technique, freestyle concepts, or choreography, students may occasionally feel uncomfortable or believe they look silly while developing a new skill. This is a normal part of the learning process.

Students are encouraged to **give themselves permission to learn** rather than expecting immediate perfection.

The same patience must be extended to classmates. Every dancer will experience challenges at some point in their training. Students should therefore encourage one another rather than criticize, embarrass, or discourage a peer who is still developing a skill.

It is essential that our classroom remains a **safe, respectful, positive, and productive learning environment** in which every student has the opportunity to grow.

1. **Be respectful** toward instructors and fellow classmates.
2. Come to class **prepared to dance, on time, in the proper attire, and with a positive attitude**.
3. Keep hair pulled back in a ponytail, bun, or another secure style and refrain from wearing jewelry during class.
4. Bring water as needed; **food, other beverages, and gum are not permitted in the studio**.
5. Keep cell phones stored and out of sight in accordance with classroom and school policy.
6. Respect the physical space, personal boundaries, and learning process of others.
7. Participate with a willingness to learn, make mistakes, receive corrections, and grow.

CONSEQUENCES

Students who do not follow classroom expectations will receive progressive consequences:

1. Warning & Redirection

The student will receive a verbal warning and will be redirected to the appropriate class activity or expected behavior.

2. Removal from Participation

If the behavior continues, the student may be asked to sit out for the remainder of class and will receive a **50% rehearsal grade** for that class period.

3. Office Referral & Parent/Guardian Contact

If the behavior continues to interfere with the learning environment, the student may be referred to the office, a parent or guardian will be contacted, and the student will receive a **0% rehearsal grade** for that class period.

Serious behavior or safety concerns may be addressed immediately in accordance with school policy.

ANNUAL SPRING DANCE CONCERT

All students enrolled in a dance course are required to participate in **PAPA's Annual Spring Dance Concert**.

Location:

National Hispanic Cultural Center (NHCC)
1701 4th Street SW
Albuquerque, NM 87102

Tech & Dress Rehearsals

Date: _____

Time: _____

Date: _____

Time: _____

Performances

Date: _____

Call Time: _____ Show Time: _____

Date: _____

Call Time: _____ Show Time: _____

Date: _____

Call Time: _____ Show Time: _____

Strike Time, if applicable: _____

Students will report **directly to the NHCC for technical and dress rehearsals rather than reporting to PAPA**.
Parents/guardians are responsible for arranging transportation to and from all technical rehearsals and performances.

Participation Is Required

Participation in the Spring Dance Concert is a **major third-quarter grade**.

Dance is a collaborative art form, and each student plays an important role within the group. When one performer is absent, formations, partnering, transitions, choreography, and the overall performance may be affected.

Missing the required performance will result in a **zero for the performance grade unless an approved medical excuse is provided**.

Conflicts involving outside dance competitions, cheer, athletics, music recitals, or other extracurricular activities are not considered excused absences from this required school performance.

Concert dates are distributed in advance so students and families have sufficient time to communicate with outside programs and make the necessary arrangements.

Students are expected to demonstrate **commitment, professionalism, teamwork, preparedness, and respect for their fellow performers throughout the entire concert process**.

INTERMEDIATE HIP HOP

Course Syllabus

Period: 4th Period

Location: Café

Course Instructors: Ms. Carlota & Ms. Vanessa

Instructor Emails: csilva@paparts.org | vmathis@paparts.org

Google Classroom Code: _____

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Intermediate Hip Hop builds upon the cultural knowledge, movement vocabulary, technique, and performance skills established in Beginning Hip Hop.

Students will continue to explore and refine the **fundamentals of Hip Hop while expanding their understanding of the different styles, genres, and movement practices found within Hip Hop and related street dance forms.**

Coursework may explore styles and influences including **popping, locking, house, krump, Afro-influenced movement, breaking, footwork styles, and other forms relevant to Hip Hop and street dance culture.** Students will study these styles through both physical application and contextual learning, including videos, lectures, discussions, research, and assignments.

Movement training will place greater emphasis on **groove, texture, dynamics, musicality, tempo, body control, coordination, movement quality, and stylistic differentiation.** Students will learn how to identify the characteristics of different movement forms and appropriately apply those characteristics within choreography, combinations, and freestyle.

Students will further develop their ability to **freestyle and battle**, including understanding basic battle structure, etiquette, musical response, individual expression, and how battles may be observed and evaluated.

Students will also begin taking greater ownership of the creative process by working collaboratively to develop original movement phrases and choreography.

Throughout the course, students will learn and rehearse a performance piece for the annual **PAPA Spring Dance Concert at NHCC.** Participation in the Spring Dance Concert serves as the student's **third-quarter final assessment** and contributes to the student's final grade.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of Intermediate Hip Hop, students should be able to:

- Identify and distinguish between multiple Hip Hop and street dance styles.
- Demonstrate an increasingly sophisticated understanding of Hip Hop fundamentals.
- Apply appropriate movement qualities to different styles and genres.
- Demonstrate increased proficiency in groove, rhythm, musicality, dynamics, texture, and tempo.
- Use established Hip Hop vocabulary accurately and demonstrate it physically.
- Retain and execute choreography with increased accuracy and performance quality.
- Create original choreography individually and collaboratively.
- Demonstrate increased confidence and individuality through freestyle.
- Understand introductory battle structure, etiquette, and evaluation.

- Analyze movement and provide constructive feedback to peers.
- Explain historical and cultural connections between movement forms.
- Successfully perform assigned Spring Dance Concert choreography.

AREAS OF STUDY

Culture, History & Context

- Continued study of Hip Hop culture
- Development of major movement forms
- Pioneers and innovators
- Historical and cultural influences
- Relationship between social dance, street dance, freestyle, battle, and performance

Style Exploration

- Popping
- Locking
- House
- Krump
- Breaking
- Footwork
- Afro-influenced movement
- Additional Hip Hop and street dance styles

Technique & Movement Development

- Groove
- Body control
- Coordination
- Weight transfer
- Isolations
- Footwork
- Rhythm
- Dynamics
- Textures
- Musicality
- Tempo
- Movement transitions

Freestyle & Battle

- Freestyle development
- Musical response

- Individual movement choices
- Cypher participation
- Battle structure and etiquette
- Peer observation and evaluation

Choreography & Composition

- Creating movement phrases
- Group choreography
- Transitions and formations
- Collaborative creation
- Applying different styles to choreography

Performance

- Choreography retention
- Stage presence
- Ensemble awareness
- Performance quality
- Spring Dance Concert preparation

RESPECT FOR HIP HOP CULTURE

Hip Hop is more than a style of dance - it is a culture with a rich history, community, and legacy. Students are expected to approach the study of Hip Hop with **respect, curiosity, and an understanding of its cultural foundations**.

Throughout this course, we will honor the pioneers, communities, traditions, and artistic practices that have shaped Hip Hop. Students will be encouraged to understand not only **how** movement is performed, but also **where it comes from, why it exists, and the people and communities who created and developed it**.

As students develop their own artistic voices, they are expected to demonstrate respect for the culture by learning its history, using terminology appropriately, acknowledging foundational styles and innovators, and participating in class with an open and respectful mindset.

Our goal is not simply to learn Hip Hop choreography, but to become **informed, responsible, and respectful students of Hip Hop culture and movement**.

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

Intermediate students are expected to demonstrate a greater level of **independence, consistency, retention, and personal responsibility** than Beginning students.

SUPPLIES & DRESS CODE

Students should come prepared with:

- Hair ties and/or bobby pins
- Deodorant
- Water bottle
- T-shirt

- Loose-fitting or movement-appropriate pants
- **Sneakers - REQUIRED**
- Knee pads when requested or required

Students should arrive dressed and prepared to participate fully at the beginning of class.

ASSESSMENT

Student achievement will be evaluated through rehearsal grades, projects, quizzes, written and practical assessments, and performances.

Rehearsal Grades - 100 Points Each

Rehearsal grades will be assigned randomly **one to five times each week**. For example, one week grades may be given Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, while another week they may be given Tuesday and Thursday.

Because rehearsal grades are intentionally given on varying days, students are expected to **dress out, arrive prepared, and participate fully every day**, rather than only on anticipated grading days.

On days when a rehearsal grade is assigned, students may earn a total of **100 points**, divided as follows:

Participation - 20 Points

Students actively participate in all aspects of class, remain engaged in class activities, and continue working when presented with a difficult technique, step, or combination. Points may be deducted for talking out of turn, disrupting class, refusing to participate, giving up without making an appropriate effort, or otherwise failing to engage in the learning process.

Attitude - 20 Points

Students are expected to approach class with a **positive growth mindset** and demonstrate kindness, generosity, and respect toward instructors and fellow students. Points may be deducted for disrespectful behavior, inappropriate language, negative interactions with peers or instructors, failure to keep hands to oneself, or behavior that negatively affects the classroom environment.

Focus - 20 Points

Students should remain focused on the task at hand and actively engage with instruction, rehearsal, and class activities. Points may be deducted for cell phone use, eating during class, talking out of turn, disrupting instruction, or other behaviors that interfere with learning.

Arriving on Time - 20 Points

Students will have **three minutes after the late bell** to complete dressing out and be ready for class. Students who are not dressed and prepared to participate by that time will be considered tardy and may have points deducted from their rehearsal grade.

Dressing Out - 20 Points

Students must attend class in the appropriate dance attire with hair secured away from the face. Points may be deducted when students are missing required components of their dance attire or are otherwise unprepared for physical participation.

In-Class Group Projects & Quizzes - 10 Points Each

Throughout the course, students may be assigned collaborative projects in which they work with classmates to create and present short choreographic works or movement phrases.

Students will also complete written quizzes throughout the year covering **dance vocabulary, Hip Hop culture, history, course concepts, and movement terminology**. Written quizzes may include multiple-choice, matching, and short-answer questions.

Practical quizzes may also be administered to assess students' ability to physically demonstrate techniques, movement vocabulary, combinations, or other material currently being studied in class. Practical quiz content will be appropriate to the movement vocabulary and technical expectations of each Hip Hop course level.

Tests & Performances - 200 Points

Students will complete both written and practical examinations throughout the course. A practical examination will be administered **at least once per semester**.

- Musicality
- Technical execution
- Movement vocabulary
- Rhythm and timing
- Choreography retention
- Performance quality
- Stylistic understanding
- Movement dynamics
- Overall application of course material

Students will receive a rubric prior to each practical examination explaining what will be assessed and how points will be awarded.

Practical examinations may be **video recorded for educational purposes** so students can observe their movement, evaluate their performance, and participate in self-assessment and reflection.

Beginning-level students will also complete the **Dance Department Written Final Examination** at the end of the spring semester. This department-wide assessment is required of students enrolled in beginning-level dance courses.

Intermediate and Advanced students may complete written or practical final assessments appropriate to their respective course level and curriculum.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students are expected to attend class **prepared and ready to learn each day**. Success in this course is directly connected to consistent attendance and participation.

A significant portion of the course consists of in-class movement activities, demonstrations, choreography, rehearsals, discussions, group work, and practical application. Because much of this material cannot be fully recreated outside of class, students who miss class - whether the absence is excused or unexcused - may find it difficult to remain current with course material.

Students are responsible for communicating with their instructors and making every reasonable effort to remain current following an absence.

MEDICAL EXCUSES

If a student is unable to physically participate because of an injury or illness, documentation or a note must be presented to the instructor.

When a medical excuse prevents physical participation, the student will be provided an appropriate **alternate assignment or modified learning activity**, and points will not be deducted solely because the student is medically unable to participate.

Students should continue attending class when medically appropriate so they can remain engaged with course content, choreography, observations, and instruction.

CELL PHONE & PERSONAL DEVICE POLICY

In accordance with **Senate Bill 11 (2025)** and guidance from the New Mexico Public Education Department, student cell phones must remain **out of sight during class**, either stored in backpacks or placed in designated classroom pouches.

Students may not use personal cell phones during class unless specifically authorized by an instructor for an educational purpose.

If a parent or guardian needs to contact a student during school hours, please contact the PAPA front office at **505-830-3128** or email **info@paparts.org**.

Students may contact their families through the front office or during approved lunch/passing periods.

School-issued Chromebooks or approved personal computers will be used for learning activities requiring technology. Students are responsible for ensuring their devices are **charged nightly and ready for academic use**.

DANCE DEPARTMENT RULES

- **Be Prompt**
- **Be Polite**
- **Be Prepared**
- **Be Productive**
- **Be Positive**

Food, beverages other than water, and gum are **not permitted in the dance studio**.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Learning a new skill can sometimes feel intimidating. With time, consistency, and practice, however, students can develop skills that may initially feel unfamiliar or difficult. Dance is no different.

While learning new movement, technique, freestyle concepts, or choreography, students may occasionally feel uncomfortable or believe they look silly while developing a new skill. This is a normal part of the learning process.

Students are encouraged to **give themselves permission to learn** rather than expecting immediate perfection.

The same patience must be extended to classmates. Every dancer will experience challenges at some point in their training. Students should therefore encourage one another rather than criticize, embarrass, or discourage a peer who is still developing a skill.

It is essential that our classroom remains a **safe, respectful, positive, and productive learning environment** in which every student has the opportunity to grow.

1. **Be respectful** toward instructors and fellow classmates.
2. Come to class **prepared to dance, on time, in the proper attire, and with a positive attitude**.
3. Keep hair pulled back in a ponytail, bun, or another secure style and refrain from wearing jewelry during class.
4. Bring water as needed; **food, other beverages, and gum are not permitted in the studio**.
5. Keep cell phones stored and out of sight in accordance with classroom and school policy.

6. Respect the physical space, personal boundaries, and learning process of others.
7. Participate with a willingness to learn, make mistakes, receive corrections, and grow.

CONSEQUENCES

Students who do not follow classroom expectations will receive progressive consequences:

1. Warning & Redirection

The student will receive a verbal warning and will be redirected to the appropriate class activity or expected behavior.

2. Removal from Participation

If the behavior continues, the student may be asked to sit out for the remainder of class and will receive a **50% rehearsal grade** for that class period.

3. Office Referral & Parent/Guardian Contact

If the behavior continues to interfere with the learning environment, the student may be referred to the office, a parent or guardian will be contacted, and the student will receive a **0% rehearsal grade** for that class period.

Serious behavior or safety concerns may be addressed immediately in accordance with school policy.

ANNUAL SPRING DANCE CONCERT

All students enrolled in a dance course are required to participate in **PAPA's Annual Spring Dance Concert**.

Location:

National Hispanic Cultural Center (NHCC)
1701 4th Street SW
Albuquerque, NM 87102

Tech & Dress Rehearsals

Date: _____

Time: _____

Date: _____

Time: _____

Performances

Date: _____

Call Time: _____ Show Time: _____

Date: _____

Call Time: _____ Show Time: _____

Date: _____

Call Time: _____ Show Time: _____

Strike Time, if applicable: _____

Students will report **directly to the NHCC for technical and dress rehearsals rather than reporting to PAPA**.

Parents/guardians are responsible for arranging transportation to and from all technical rehearsals and performances.

Participation Is Required

Participation in the Spring Dance Concert is a **major third-quarter grade**.

Dance is a collaborative art form, and each student plays an important role within the group. When one performer is absent, formations, partnering, transitions, choreography, and the overall performance may be affected.

Missing the required performance will result in a **zero for the performance grade unless an approved medical excuse is provided**.

Conflicts involving outside dance competitions, cheer, athletics, music recitals, or other extracurricular activities are not considered excused absences from this required school performance.

Concert dates are distributed in advance so students and families have sufficient time to communicate with outside programs and make the necessary arrangements.

Students are expected to demonstrate **commitment, professionalism, teamwork, preparedness, and respect for their fellow performers throughout the entire concert process**.

ADVANCED HIP HOP

Course Syllabus

Level: Higher Intermediate-Advanced

Location: Café

Course Instructors: Ms. Carlota & Ms. Vanessa

Instructor Emails: csilva@paparts.org | vmathis@paparts.org

Google Classroom Code: _____

COURSE DESCRIPTION

Advanced Hip Hop is designed for the **higher-intermediate to advanced dancer** who demonstrates a strong foundation in Hip Hop technique, vocabulary, musicality, performance, and movement retention.

This course approaches dancers with **pre-professional expectations and standards**, requiring increased personal responsibility, physical preparedness, artistic maturity, and commitment to training.

Students are expected to maintain the physical conditioning necessary to meet increased demands in **endurance, strength, coordination, movement complexity, performance, and choreography**.

Advanced Hip Hop will continue to define, refine, and elevate the fundamentals of Hip Hop while challenging students to demonstrate greater versatility across styles and genres. Students will study, analyze, and critique Hip Hop in multiple contexts, including **street and social dance, freestyle, battle, competitive dance, commercial performance, stage performance, touring, and dance for film/camera**.

Students will examine not only **how** movement is executed, but also its cultural context, artistic intention, stylistic integrity, and effectiveness in different performance environments.

Advanced dancers will receive opportunities to apply their training through **performances, artistic projects, community events, freestyle and battle experiences, choreography, and dance-for-camera work** when available.

The course emphasizes the development of the **individual artist**. Students will be challenged to make intentional creative choices, develop a recognizable movement voice, collaborate professionally, receive and apply critique, and contribute meaningfully to the creative process.

Throughout the course, students will learn and rehearse a performance piece for the annual **PAPA Spring Dance Concert at NHCC**. Participation in the Spring Dance Concert serves as the student's **third-quarter final assessment** and contributes to the student's final grade.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

By the end of Advanced Hip Hop, students should be able to:

- Perform advanced choreography with technical proficiency, musicality, stamina, and performance quality.
- Execute Hip Hop fundamentals consistently and proficiently.
- Identify, analyze, compare, and critique multiple Hip Hop and street dance genres and forms.
- Demonstrate stylistic versatility while respecting the foundations and cultural context of the movement.
- Apply advanced concepts of groove, texture, dynamics, musicality, tempo, rhythm, and movement quality.
- Demonstrate advanced choreography retention and adaptability.
- Freestyle with increased confidence, musical awareness, individuality, and intention.

- Participate appropriately in freestyle, cypher, and battle environments.
- Create and contribute to original choreography.
- Collaborate effectively within a creative team.
- Evaluate personal and peer performance using appropriate movement vocabulary.
- Adapt performance quality for **stage, live performance, competition, and camera**.
- Demonstrate professionalism consistent with pre-professional dance expectations.
- Complete a dance-for-camera or film-based creative project.
- Perform successfully in the annual Spring Dance Concert and additional approved performance opportunities.

AREAS OF STUDY

Advanced Technique

- Hip Hop fundamentals
- Groove refinement
- Complex weight shifts
- Coordination
- Footwork
- Isolations
- Dynamics
- Texture
- Musicality
- Tempo
- Endurance and conditioning
- Movement efficiency and control

Style & Genre Analysis

- Physical practice
- Historical research
- Video analysis
- Discussion
- Written assignments
- Peer critique
- Performance application

Freestyle, Cypher & Battle

- Advanced freestyle development
- Musical interpretation
- Individuality
- Improvisational decision-making

- Cypher etiquette
- Battle strategy
- Battle observation and evaluation
- Artistic presence

Choreography & Creative Development

- Group choreography
- Student-led creation
- Composition
- Formations and transitions
- Artistic intention
- Collaborative creative processes
- Developing an individual movement voice

Performance & Professional Development

- Stage performance
- Community performances
- Competitive/commercial movement environments
- Audition-style learning and retention
- Professional rehearsal etiquette
- Adaptability
- Performance under pressure
- Receiving and applying corrections

Dance for Camera

- Performance projection for camera
- Spatial awareness within a frame
- Choreography for camera
- Angles and orientation
- Repetition and consistency between takes
- Performance intention
- Basic dance-film concepts

Students will apply these skills through a **film or dance-for-camera project**.

RESPECT FOR HIP HOP CULTURE

Hip Hop is more than a style of dance - it is a culture with a rich history, community, and legacy. Students are expected to approach the study of Hip Hop with **respect, curiosity, and an understanding of its cultural foundations**.

Throughout this course, we will honor the pioneers, communities, traditions, and artistic practices that have shaped Hip Hop. Students will be encouraged to understand not only **how** movement is performed, but also **where it comes from, why it exists, and the people and communities who created and developed it**.

As students develop their own artistic voices, they are expected to demonstrate respect for the culture by learning its history, using terminology appropriately, acknowledging foundational styles and innovators, and participating in class with an open and respectful mindset.

Our goal is not simply to learn Hip Hop choreography, but to become **informed, responsible, and respectful students of Hip Hop culture and movement.**

COURSE EXPECTATIONS

Advanced Hip Hop students will be treated according to **pre-professional program standards**. Students are expected to:

- Arrive prepared and ready to work.
- Maintain appropriate physical conditioning.
- Retain choreography independently.
- Apply corrections consistently.
- Demonstrate initiative and personal accountability.
- Contribute positively to the classroom and rehearsal environment.
- Respect the history, culture, and foundations of Hip Hop.
- Demonstrate artistic curiosity and willingness to take creative risks.
- Work collaboratively and professionally with peers.
- Maintain appropriate rehearsal and performance etiquette.
- Represent the program professionally during performances and community events.

SUPPLIES & DRESS CODE

Students should consistently have:

- Hair ties and/or bobby pins
- Deodorant
- Water bottle
- Appropriate dancewear
- T-shirt and/or approved movement top
- Loose-fitting or movement-appropriate pants
- **Sneakers - REQUIRED**
- Knee pads
- Any additional footwear or clothing required for specific choreography or performance work

Advanced students are expected to manage their personal dance supplies independently and arrive fully prepared for class, rehearsal, filming, and performance.

ASSESSMENT

Student achievement will be evaluated through rehearsal grades, projects, quizzes, written and practical assessments, and performances.

Rehearsal Grades - 100 Points Each

Rehearsal grades will be assigned randomly **one to five times each week**. For example, one week grades may be given Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, while another week they may be given Tuesday and Thursday.

Because rehearsal grades are intentionally given on varying days, students are expected to **dress out, arrive prepared, and participate fully every day**, rather than only on anticipated grading days.

On days when a rehearsal grade is assigned, students may earn a total of **100 points**, divided as follows:

Participation - 20 Points

Students actively participate in all aspects of class, remain engaged in class activities, and continue working when presented with a difficult technique, step, or combination. Points may be deducted for talking out of turn, disrupting class, refusing to participate, giving up without making an appropriate effort, or otherwise failing to engage in the learning process.

Attitude - 20 Points

Students are expected to approach class with a **positive growth mindset** and demonstrate kindness, generosity, and respect toward instructors and fellow students. Points may be deducted for disrespectful behavior, inappropriate language, negative interactions with peers or instructors, failure to keep hands to oneself, or behavior that negatively affects the classroom environment.

Focus - 20 Points

Students should remain focused on the task at hand and actively engage with instruction, rehearsal, and class activities. Points may be deducted for cell phone use, eating during class, talking out of turn, disrupting instruction, or other behaviors that interfere with learning.

Arriving on Time - 20 Points

Students will have **three minutes after the late bell** to complete dressing out and be ready for class. Students who are not dressed and prepared to participate by that time will be considered tardy and may have points deducted from their rehearsal grade.

Dressing Out - 20 Points

Students must attend class in the appropriate dance attire with hair secured away from the face. Points may be deducted when students are missing required components of their dance attire or are otherwise unprepared for physical participation.

In-Class Group Projects & Quizzes - 10 Points Each

Throughout the course, students may be assigned collaborative projects in which they work with classmates to create and present short choreographic works or movement phrases.

Students will also complete written quizzes throughout the year covering **dance vocabulary, Hip Hop culture, history, course concepts, and movement terminology**. Written quizzes may include multiple-choice, matching, and short-answer questions.

Practical quizzes may also be administered to assess students' ability to physically demonstrate techniques, movement vocabulary, combinations, or other material currently being studied in class. Practical quiz content will be appropriate to the movement vocabulary and technical expectations of each Hip Hop course level.

Tests & Performances - 200 Points

Students will complete both written and practical examinations throughout the course. A practical examination will be administered **at least once per semester**.

- Musicality

- Technical execution
- Movement vocabulary
- Rhythm and timing
- Choreography retention
- Performance quality
- Stylistic understanding
- Movement dynamics
- Overall application of course material

Students will receive a rubric prior to each practical examination explaining what will be assessed and how points will be awarded.

Practical examinations may be **video recorded for educational purposes** so students can observe their movement, evaluate their performance, and participate in self-assessment and reflection.

Beginning-level students will also complete the **Dance Department Written Final Examination** at the end of the spring semester. This department-wide assessment is required of students enrolled in beginning-level dance courses.

Intermediate and Advanced students may complete written or practical final assessments appropriate to their respective course level and curriculum.

ATTENDANCE POLICY

Students are expected to attend class **prepared and ready to learn each day**. Success in this course is directly connected to consistent attendance and participation.

A significant portion of the course consists of in-class movement activities, demonstrations, choreography, rehearsals, discussions, group work, and practical application. Because much of this material cannot be fully recreated outside of class, students who miss class - whether the absence is excused or unexcused - may find it difficult to remain current with course material.

Students are responsible for communicating with their instructors and making every reasonable effort to remain current following an absence.

MEDICAL EXCUSES

If a student is unable to physically participate because of an injury or illness, documentation or a note must be presented to the instructor.

When a medical excuse prevents physical participation, the student will be provided an appropriate **alternate assignment or modified learning activity**, and points will not be deducted solely because the student is medically unable to participate.

Students should continue attending class when medically appropriate so they can remain engaged with course content, choreography, observations, and instruction.

CELL PHONE & PERSONAL DEVICE POLICY

In accordance with **Senate Bill 11 (2025)** and guidance from the New Mexico Public Education Department, student cell phones must remain **out of sight during class**, either stored in backpacks or placed in designated classroom pouches.

Students may not use personal cell phones during class unless specifically authorized by an instructor for an educational purpose.

If a parent or guardian needs to contact a student during school hours, please contact the PAPA front office at **505-830-3128** or email **info@paparts.org**.

Students may contact their families through the front office or during approved lunch/passing periods.

School-issued Chromebooks or approved personal computers will be used for learning activities requiring technology. Students are responsible for ensuring their devices are **charged nightly and ready for academic use**.

DANCE DEPARTMENT RULES

- **Be Prompt**
- **Be Polite**
- **Be Prepared**
- **Be Productive**
- **Be Positive**

Food, beverages other than water, and gum are **not permitted in the dance studio**.

CLASSROOM EXPECTATIONS

Learning a new skill can sometimes feel intimidating. With time, consistency, and practice, however, students can develop skills that may initially feel unfamiliar or difficult. Dance is no different.

While learning new movement, technique, freestyle concepts, or choreography, students may occasionally feel uncomfortable or believe they look silly while developing a new skill. This is a normal part of the learning process.

Students are encouraged to **give themselves permission to learn** rather than expecting immediate perfection.

The same patience must be extended to classmates. Every dancer will experience challenges at some point in their training. Students should therefore encourage one another rather than criticize, embarrass, or discourage a peer who is still developing a skill.

It is essential that our classroom remains a **safe, respectful, positive, and productive learning environment** in which every student has the opportunity to grow.

1. **Be respectful** toward instructors and fellow classmates.
2. Come to class **prepared to dance, on time, in the proper attire, and with a positive attitude**.
3. Keep hair pulled back in a ponytail, bun, or another secure style and refrain from wearing jewelry during class.
4. Bring water as needed; **food, other beverages, and gum are not permitted in the studio**.
5. Keep cell phones stored and out of sight in accordance with classroom and school policy.
6. Respect the physical space, personal boundaries, and learning process of others.
7. Participate with a willingness to learn, make mistakes, receive corrections, and grow.

CONSEQUENCES

Students who do not follow classroom expectations will receive progressive consequences:

1. Warning & Redirection

The student will receive a verbal warning and will be redirected to the appropriate class activity or expected behavior.

2. Removal from Participation

If the behavior continues, the student may be asked to sit out for the remainder of class and will receive a **50% rehearsal grade** for that class period.

3. Office Referral & Parent/Guardian Contact

If the behavior continues to interfere with the learning environment, the student may be referred to the office, a parent or guardian will be contacted, and the student will receive a **0% rehearsal grade** for that class period.

Serious behavior or safety concerns may be addressed immediately in accordance with school policy.

ANNUAL SPRING DANCE CONCERT

All students enrolled in a dance course are required to participate in **PAPA's Annual Spring Dance Concert**.

Location:

National Hispanic Cultural Center (NHCC)
1701 4th Street SW
Albuquerque, NM 87102

Tech & Dress Rehearsals

Date: _____

Time: _____

Date: _____

Time: _____

Performances

Date: _____

Call Time: _____ Show Time: _____

Date: _____

Call Time: _____ Show Time: _____

Date: _____

Call Time: _____ Show Time: _____

Strike Time, if applicable: _____

Students will report **directly to the NHCC for technical and dress rehearsals rather than reporting to PAPA**.

Parents/guardians are responsible for arranging transportation to and from all technical rehearsals and performances.

Participation Is Required

Participation in the Spring Dance Concert is a **major third-quarter grade**.

Dance is a collaborative art form, and each student plays an important role within the group. When one performer is absent, formations, partnering, transitions, choreography, and the overall performance may be affected.

Missing the required performance will result in a **zero for the performance grade unless an approved medical excuse is provided**.

Conflicts involving outside dance competitions, cheer, athletics, music recitals, or other extracurricular activities are not considered excused absences from this required school performance.

Concert dates are distributed in advance so students and families have sufficient time to communicate with outside programs and make the necessary arrangements.

Students are expected to demonstrate **commitment, professionalism, teamwork, preparedness, and respect for their fellow performers throughout the entire concert process**.